

**PRINTER RUSH**

(PTO ASSISTANCE)

Application : 10/070471

Examiner : Schwartz2

GAU : 3761

From : J. Black

Location : (IDC) FMF FDC

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DOC CODE	DOC DATE	MISCELLANEOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> 1449		<input type="checkbox"/> Continuing Data
<input type="checkbox"/> IDS		<input type="checkbox"/> Foreign Priority
<input type="checkbox"/> CLM		<input type="checkbox"/> Document Legibility
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**[RUSH] MESSAGE:**

LET. 3/7/02: Page 2 of specification, please verify data is not missing from bottom of page.

Please resolve

**[XRUSH] RESPONSE:**

Corrected

William Dawkins

703-836-6620

INITIALS: PS

NOTE: This form will be included as part of the official USPTO record, with the Response document coded as XRUSH.

REV 10/04

5/24 6/1 6/2

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The present invention aims to provide an absorbent article of the aforesaid kind in which the ridge-like part curves gently and has been produced without including an insert in the absorbent body.

## 5 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

10 These objects are achieved in accordance with the invention with an absorbent article in the form of a sanitary napkin, a panty liner or an incontinence protector which includes a front portion, a rear portion, a liquid-permeable top sheet, a liquid-impermeable backing sheet, and an absorbent body or pad enclosed between the top sheet and backing sheet, said article having in its rear portion a longitudinally outstanding part which extends in the form of a ridge from that side of the article that includes the top sheet, said article being characterised in that a central string of material extends in the rear portion of the article, and in that the absorbent body enclosed between the top and backing sheets extends around 15 the long sides of said string in the rear portion of the article. Folding of the absorbent body around a string of material results in a gently rounded ridge-like elevation.

20 In one preferred embodiment of the invention, the string comprises a rear portion of a longitudinally extending strip of flexible material that presents a high coefficient of friction to textile material and which extends in the front and the rear portions of the article and is attached to the backing sheet on that side thereof distal from the absorbent body. This ensures that the front portion of the article will not move relative to the undergarments of the wearer when the article is in use.

25 Those parts of the article which extend around the long sides of the string of tape material extending in the rear portion of the article abut with and are attached to each other in at least one place. The strip of flexible material is preferably comprised of an elastic foam material which is mounted in a stretched state in the rear portion of the article and in a relaxed state in the front portion of said article, wherewith mutually adjacent parts of the string of strip material are fastened together in at least one place. The strip extends 30 symmetrically on both sides of the longitudinal symmetry axis of the article and has in the